

# Oregon Basin Outlook Report

March 1, 2011



The above photo was taken by field office staff Scott Robbins and Tom Snyder during the March 1 snow survey on Mary's Peak near Corvallis, Oregon. Since last month, the Mary's Peak Revised snow course has gained 34" of snow depth and 6.4" of water content; a significant change from having no snow just one month ago. A recent barrage of Pacific low pressure systems has brought increased snowfall to the Oregon mountains, increasing snow water content across the state.

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### **General Outlook**

#### March 1, 2011

#### **SUMMARY**

A high pressure ridge settled over Oregon during the later part of January and first part of February. The ridge brought dry and pleasant spring weather to the state. During the middle of February, the ridge finally broke down, bringing colder temperatures along with snow and precipitation. Snowpacks that had languished during January and February were replenished by this series of storms. The March 1 snow surveys showed improved snow pack conditions over the deficits reported on February 1.

In many Oregon basins, water supply forecasts remain similar to last month's Basin Outlook Report. February snowpack gains did not directly translate to improved water supply forecasts in many cases.

#### **SNOWPACK**

A winter storm moved into the state during the last two weeks of February bringing new snow to most snow measurement sites in the state. The storm was concentrated in northwest Oregon and southwest Washington along the Cascade crest. Snow water content gained appreciably at snow measurement sites in the northern Oregon Cascades. As a result, there were modest improvements to some water supply forecasts in the region.

During an average year, Oregon SNOTEL sites have accumulated approximately 85 to 95 percent of their annual peak snow accumulation by March 1. This year on March 1, the snowpack in Oregon basins ranged from 80 percent of average in the Hood, Mile Creeks and Lower Deschutes basins, to 98 percent of average in the Owyhee and Malheur basins and Lake County. Snow measurements were collected at 81 SNOTEL sites, 48 snow courses and 28 aerial markers this month.

#### **PRECIPITATION**

During the first half of February, clear and dry conditions prevailed over most of the state. At mid month, a series of storms brought much needed precipitation to the region.

Precipitation for the month of February was below normal to well below normal throughout most of Oregon. February precipitation ranged from 65 percent of average in the Klamath basin to 93 percent of average in the Lower Columbia basin.

Since the beginning of the water year, total precipitation has been near to slightly above average as a result of a wet early season.

#### **RESERVOIRS**

The March 1 storage at 26 major Oregon reservoirs analyzed in this publication was 88 percent of average. A total of 1,861,900 acre feet of water were stored on March 1, representing 58 percent of useable capacity. Last year at this time, these same reservoirs stored 1,338,600 acre feet of water.

#### **STREAMFLOW**

Water supply forecasts remain similar to last month's Water Supply Outlook Report in many basins. February snowpack gains did not directly translate to improved water supply forecasts in many cases. Basin wide summer streamflow forecasts are summarized below.

A summary of streamflow forecasts for Oregon follows:

STREAM	PERIOD	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Owyhee Reservoir Inflow	Apr-Sep	105
Grande Ronde R at La Grande	Apr-Sep	99
Umatilla R at Pendleton	Apr-Sep	112
Deschutes R at Benham Falls	Apr-Sep	99
MF Willamette R bl NF	Apr-Sep	105
Rogue R at Raygold	Apr-Sep	97
Upper Klamath Lake Inflow	Apr-Sep	97
Silvies R nr Burns	Apr-Sept	111

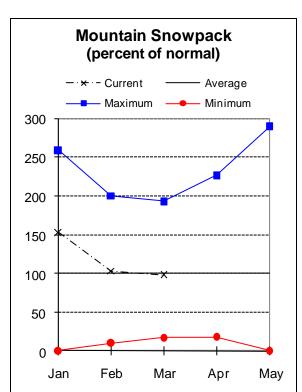
Some of these forecasts assume that normal weather conditions will occur from now to the end of the forecast period.

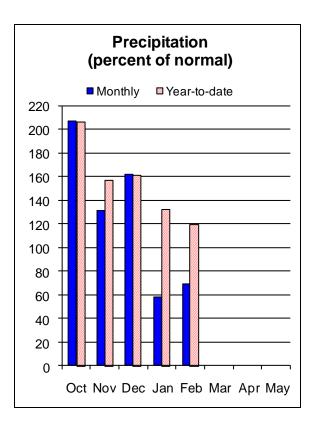
The forecasts in this bulletin are a result of coordinated activity between the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service as an effort to provide the best possible service to water users.

This report contains data furnished by the Oregon Department of Water Resources, U.S. Geological Survey, NOAA National Weather Service and other cooperators. This report will be updated monthly, January through June.



# Owyhee and Malheur Basins March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

February precipitation the Owyhee and Malheur basin was only 69 percent of average. This is the second month in a row with below average precipitation in the basin. Earlier in the water year, wetter conditions prevailed. As a result, cumulative precipitation since the beginning of the water year has been 119 percent of average.

On March 1, the snowpack in the Owyhee and Malheur basin was 98 percent of average, the highest in the state. Snow measurements were collected at 10 SNOTEL sites, 4 snow courses and 18 aerial markers in the basin this month.

March 1 storage at the four irrigation reservoirs in the Owyhee and Malheur basins was 80 percent of average and 52 percent of capacity.

The April through September streamflow forecasts in the Owyhee and Malheur basins range from 105 percent of average for Owyhee Reservoir Inflow to 111 percent of average for the Malheur River near Drewsey. Summer streamflow forecasts have declined somewhat from the February Basin Outlook Report. Water users in the Owyhee and Malheur basins can anticipate near to slightly above average streamflows for the summer ahead.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: Ontario - (541) 889-7637

### OWYHEE AND MALHEUR BASINS

#### Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

		<<=====	- Dad						
- · · · · ·			== Drier =		Future Co	nditions ==	==== Wetter	====>>	
Forecast Point	Forecast	======	:======	==== Ch	ance Of E	xceedina * =		 ======	
101ccase 101ne	Period	90%	70%			0% I	30%	10%	30-Yr Avg.
	i	(1000AF)	•		,	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)
alheur R nr Drewsey	MAR-JUL	71	100	-===   ====: 	 122	111	 147	 187	110
	APR-SEP	47	68		84	111	102	132	76
F Malheur R at Beulah (2)	MAR-JUL	60	78		92	114	107	131	81
wyhee R bl Owyhee Dam (2)	MAR-JUL	410	540	 	645	105	755	935	615
	MAR-SEP	440	575		675	105	785	960	645
	APR-SEP	255	365		450	105	545	700	430
wyhee R nr Rome	MAR-JUL	390	520		610	105	700	830	580
	MAR-SEP	405	540		630	105	720	855	600
	APR-SEP	210	335	I	420	105	505	630	400
OWVIDE A							======================================		
Reservoir Storage (1	1000 AF) - End	of Februa	-			Watershed Sn	owpack Analys	is - March	•
	======================================		ole Stora		 	========	Numbe		======================================
eservoir	Capacity  	This Year	Last Year	Avg	Water	shed	of Data Si		Yr Average
EULAH RES	60.0	32.4	17.4	35.4	1		 19	98	100
ULLY CREEK	30.0	14.5	14.9	17.5	   Upper	Malheur	8	81	97
WHILE	715 0	402.0	212 0	400 1	1		2	1.00	0.0
VIHEE	/15.0	403.8	∠13.U		İ	n creek	3	100	98
ARMSPRINGS	191.0	66.3	24.2	102.7	Bully	Creek	3	60	100
					Willo	w Creek	4	67	109
Reservoir Storage (1	Usable   Capacity    60.0   30.0   715.0	of Februa *** Usak This Year 32.4 14.5	Die Storag Last Year 17.4 14.9 213.0	Avg  35.4 17.5 489.1	Water  Water  Owyhe  Upper  Jorda  Bully	Watershed Sn ====================================	Numbe of Data Si 19 8 3	is - March	 Year  Yr

<sup>\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%,</sup> and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table. The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

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For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: Ontario - (541) 889-7637

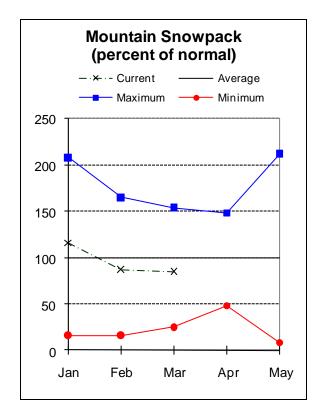
<sup>(1) -</sup> The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.

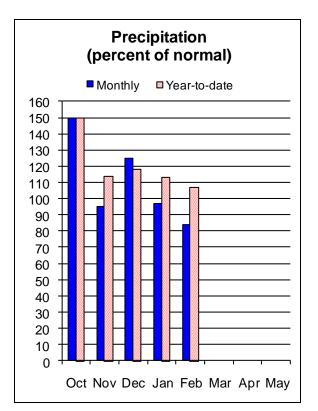
<sup>(2) -</sup> The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



# Burnt, Powder, Grand Ronde, and Imnaha Basins

March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

A drier than normal February did not improve the snowpack in the Burnt, Powder, Pine, Grande Ronde, and Imnaha basins. On March 1, the snowpack in the basin measured 85 percent of average, a small decline from last month. Snow measurements were gathered at 16 SNOTEL sites, 7 snow courses and 1 aerial marker in the basin. Precipitation for the month of February was 84 percent of average in the basin.

As of March 1, total water year precipitation was 107 percent of average. March 1 storage at Phillips Lake, Thief Valley and Unity reservoirs was 102 percent of average and 67 percent of capacity.

Most forecasts for points within the basin remain unchanged from the February 1 Outlook Report. As of March 1, the April through September streamflow forecasts range from 93 percent of average for Pine Creek near Oxbow to 108 percent of average for the Burnt River near Hereford. Elsewhere in the basin, the Grande Ronde River at LaGrande is forecast to be 99 percent of average for the April through September period. At this point in the season, basin water users can expect average streamflows for the summer of 2011.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: Enterprise- (541) 426-4588; Baker City - (541) 523-7121; LaGrande - (541) 963-4178

Or visit: <a href="http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cgibin/bor.pl">http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cgibin/bor.pl</a>

# BURNT, POWDER, PINE, GRANDE RONDE AND IMNAHA BASINS Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

	========	======================================	======================================	======================================	nditions ==	===== Wetter	=====>>	=========
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	=======   90%   (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	5	60%   (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10%   10%   (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Bear Ck nr Wallowa	APR-SEP	46	55		92	65	74	65
Burnt nr Hereford (2)	MAR-JUL	39	49	55	108	61	71	51
	APR-SEP	25	35	42	108	49	59	39
Catherine Ck nr Union	APR-JUL	47	57	63	102	69	79	62
	APR-SEP	51	60	67	102	74	83	66
Deer Ck nr Sumpter	MAR-JUL	11.9	15.1	17.3	95	19.5	23	18.2
Grande Ronde R at La Grande	MAR-JUL	165	210	240	97	270	315	247
	APR-SEP	115	158	187	100	215	260	188
Grande Ronde R at Troy (1)	MAR-JUL	1170	1470	1600	101	1730	2030	1580
	APR-SEP	945	1240	1380	101	1520	1810	1370
Imnaha R at Imnaha	APR-JUL	195	245	275	102	305	355	270
	APR-SEP	215	265	300	102	335	385	295
Lostine R nr Lostine	APR-JUL	100	109	115	103	121	130	112
	APR-SEP	109	118	125	103	132	141	121
Pine Ck nr Oxbow	MAR-JUL	110	149	175	93	200	240	188
	APR-JUL	84	115	137	93	159	190	148
	APR-SEP	88	121	143	93	165	198	154
Powder R nr Sumpter	MAR-JUL APR-JUL APR-SEP	52 40 40	63 51 52	   71   59   60	101   102   102	79 67 68	90 78 80	70 58 59
Wolf Ck Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAR-JUN	11.7	15.3	   17.8 	110   	20	24	16.2

BURNT, POWDER, PINE, GR Reservoir Storage (10				 	BURNT, POWDER, PINE, GRANDE RONDE AND IM   Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March						
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity  	*** Usal This Year	ole Storaç Last Year	ge ***       Avg	Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Yea ====== Last Yr	r as % of ====== Average			
PHILLIPS LAKE	73.5	49.2	40.7	43.8	Upper Grande Ronde	9	123	92			
THIEF VALLEY	17.4	13.8	13.7	17.3	Wallowa	4	112	86			
UNITY	25.2	15.1	10.1	15.8	Imnaha	4	121	79			
WALLOWA LAKE	37.5	15.4	13.0	18.8	Powder	11	111	86			
WOLF CREEK	10.4	11.1	3.8	3.8	Burnt	5	88	95			

<sup>\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%,</sup> and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

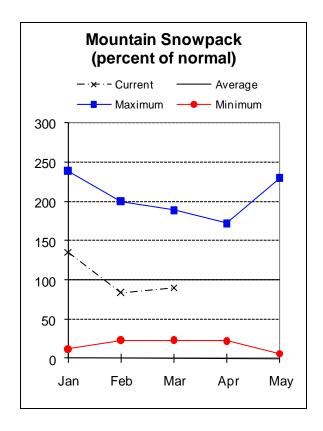
The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

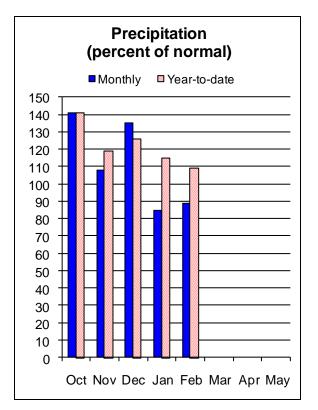
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- (2) The value is natural volume actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



# Umatilla, Walla Walla, Willow Rock, and Lower John Day Basins

March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

On March 1, the snowpack in the Umatilla, Walla Walla, Willow, Rock and Lower John Day basin was 90 percent of average, a small but welcome improvement from the February 1 survey. Snow measurements for March 1 were collected at 7 SNOTEL sites and 2 snow courses. As of March 1, total water year precipitation for the basin was 109 percent of average. February precipitation measured 89 percent of average.

March 1 storage at Cold Springs and McKay reservoirs was 100 percent of average and 60 percent of capacity. The April through September streamflow forecasts range from 103 percent of average for the South Fork Walla Walla River near Milton-Freewater to 125 percent of average for Butter Creek near Pine City. Elsewhere in the basin, the Umatilla River near Pendleton is forecast to be 112 percent of average for the April through September period. At this point in the season, water users in the Umatilla, Walla Walla, Willow, Rock and Lower John Day basins can expect near to above average streamflow conditions for the summer of 2011.

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UMATILLA, WALLA WALLA, WILLOW, ROCK AND LOWER JOHN DAY BASINS Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast	'	Drier ====	== Future Co = Chance Of E		===== Wetter		
Torcoade Torne	Period	90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)		50%   (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10%   (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Butter Ck nr Pine City	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	12.3 7.8	16.2 10.7	=====================================	125   125	21 14.7	25 17.6	15.0 10.2
McKay Ck nr Pilot Rock	APR-SEP	13.7	25	33	122	41	52	27
Rhea Ck nr Heppner	MAR-JUL	8.3	11.7	14.0	130	16.3	19.7	10.8
Umatilla R ab Meacham Ck nr Gibbon	APR-JUL MAR-SEP APR-SEP	58 91 64	71 106 77	   80   116   86	110   109   109	89 126 95	102 141 108	73 106 79
Umatilla R at Pendleton	APR-JUL MAR-SEP APR-SEP	116 205 123	147 235 153	   167   260   174	112   113   112	187 285 195	220 315 225	149 230 155
SF Walla Walla R nr Milton-Freewater	APR-JUL MAR-SEP APR-SEP	46 70 58	52 78 64	   56   83   69	104   103   103	60 88 74	66 96 80	54 81 67
Willow Ck ab Willow Ck Lake nr Heppr	n MAR-JUL APR-JUL	8.4	11.6	   13.8   9.2	124   124	16.0	19.2 13.6	11.1

UMATILLA, WALLA WALLA, WILLOW, ROCK AND LOWER JOHN DAY BASINS

Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February | Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2011

Reservoir	Usable   Capacity	*** Usak This	le Storag Last	re ***   	Watershed	Number of	This Year as % of	
		Year	Year	Avg		Data Sites	Last Yr	Average
COLD SPRINGS	50.0	22.4	14.6	29.5	Walla Walla	4	132	87
MCKAY	73.8	51.4	19.0	44.6	Umatilla	7	137	94
WILLOW CREEK	1.8	0.9	1.2	 	McKay Creek	4	152	95

<sup>\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%,</sup> and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table. The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

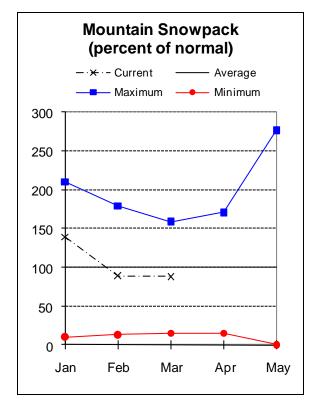
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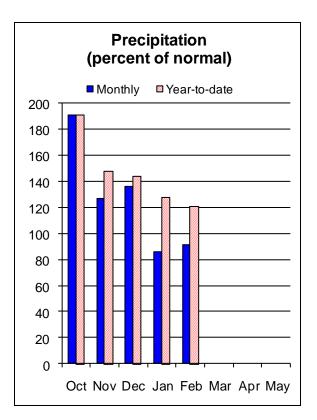
<sup>(2) -</sup> The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



# **Upper John Day Basin**

March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

Small gains were made in the snowpack of the Upper John Day basin during the month of February. On March 1, the snowpack in the Upper John Day was 88 percent of average as measured at 13 SNOTEL sites and 4 snow courses. February precipitation in the Upper John Day basin was 91 percent of average. Since the beginning of the water year, cumulative precipitation in the Upper John Day basin has been 121 percent of average, the highest percentage in the state.

The April through September streamflow forecasts range from 95 percent of average for Camas Creek near Ukiah to 111 percent of average for Mountain Creek near Mitchell. Elsewhere in the basin, the North Fork John Day at Monument is forecast to be 110 percent of average for the April through September period. Water users in the John Day basin can expect near to slightly above average streamflows for the summer of 2011.

UPPER JOHN DAY BASIN

#### Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

		Screamiliow	Forecasts	- Maic	.11 1, 20						
			Drier ====								
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)		5	0% (% AVG.)		30% 1000AF)	====== 10% (1000AF)		0-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Camas Ck nr Ukiah	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	33 20	43 30	-     	49 36	94 95	   	55 42	65 52		52 38
MF John Day R at Ritter	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	122 92	154 121		175 141	110 110		196 161	230 190		159 128
NF John Day R at Monument	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	630 460	775 585		870 675	110 110		965 765	1110 890		790 615
Mountain Ck nr Mitchell	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	3.9 2.6	5.6 4.1		6.8 5.1	112 111		8.0 6.1	9.7 7.6		6.1 4.6
Strawberry Ck nr Prairie City	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	5.4 5.7	7.0 7.3		8.0 8.4	108 108	     	9.0 9.5	10.6 11.1		7.4 7.8
UPPER JC Reservoir Storage (10	PHN DAY BASIN 000 AF) - End	of Februar	 .y	   		Watershed S	Snowpac	_	is - Marc		
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity	*** Usabl This	e Storage * Last		Water			Numbe of	r Th	ls Yea	 r as % of ======
		Year	Year A	Avg				Data Si		st Yr	Average
				-   		Fork John		7	109		79
				   	John	Day above F	Kimberl	y 5	11(	)	92

<sup>\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%,</sup> and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

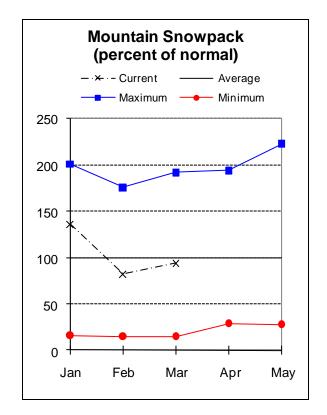
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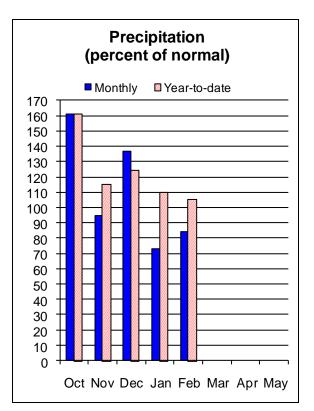
For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: John Day - (541) 575-0135



# **Upper Deschutes and Crooked Basins**

March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

As of March 1, the snowpack in the Upper Deschutes and Crooked basins measured 94 percent of average, a significant improvement from February 1. Snow measurements were recorded at 14 SNOTEL sites and 6 snow courses. February precipitation in the Upper Deschutes and Crooked River basins was only 84 percent of average. Since the beginning of the water year, precipitation in the basins has been 105 percent of average.

The March 1 storage at five irrigation reservoirs in the Upper Deschutes and Crooked River basins was 111 percent of average or 82 percent of capacity.

The April through September streamflow forecasts range from 96 percent of average for Whychus Creek near Sisters to 109 percent of average for Ochoco Reservoir Inflow. Elsewhere in the basin, Prineville Reservoir Inflow is forecast to be 105 percent of average for the same period. Both the Ochoco and Prineville reservoir inflow forecasts have declined since last month, yet remain above average. Water users in the Upper Deschutes and Crooked basins can anticipate near to slightly above average streamflow conditions for the summer ahead.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: Redmond (541) 923-4358

# UPPER DESCHUTES AND CROOKED BASINS Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast			:== Future Co := Chance Of E				
	Period	90%   (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	(1000AF)	50%   (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10%   (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Crane Prairie Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	======== 55	 64	=====================================	104	78	87	<b>======</b> 68
	APR-JUL	49	57	62	105 I	67	75	59
	MAR-SEP	88	99	107	105 i	115	126	102
	APR-SEP	81	91	98	105	105	115	93
Crescent Ck nr Crescent (2)	MAR-JUL	12.5	17.6	21	105	24	30	20
	APR-JUL	10.8	15.1	18.1	105	21	25	17.2
	MAR-SEP	16.2	21	25	104	29	34	24
	APR-SEP	14.6	19.0	22	105	25	29	21
Deschutes R at Benham Falls nr Bend	MAR-JUL	385	410	1 425	99	440	465	430
	APR-JUL	315	335	345	99	355	375	350
	MAR-SEP	550	580	600	99	620	650	605
	APR-SEP	480	505	520	99	535	560	525
Deschutes R bl Snow Ck nr La Pine	MAR-JUL	27	34	39	100	44	51	39
	APR-JUL	23	29	33	100	37	43	33
	MAR-SEP	51	59	65	100	71	79	65
	APR-SEP	47	54	59	100	64	71	59
Little Deschutes R nr La Pine (2)	MAR-JUL	70	83	91	105	99	112	87
	APR-JUL	59	68	75	106	82	91	71
	MAR-SEP	79	92	101	105	110	123	96
	APR-SEP	64	76	84	105	92	104	80
Ochoco Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	25	33	38	109	43	51	35
	APR-JUL	12.9	19.5	24	109	28	35	22
	MAR-SEP	25	33	38	109	43	51	35
	APR-SEP	12.9	19.5	24	109	28	35	22
Prineville Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	102	156	193	105	230	285	184
	APR-JUL	49	87	113	105	139	177	108
	MAR-SEP	102	157	194	105 I	230	285	185
	APR-SEP	48	87	114	105	141	180	109

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: Redmond (541) 923-4358

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#### UPPER DESCHUTES AND CROOKED BASINS Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

		Streamflow	v Forecast	s - Ma	rch 1, 20	)11			
Forecast Point	Forecast Period		70%	=== Ch	ance Of E	onditions == Exceeding * = 50%   (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	r ====>>   =====   10%   (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Whychus Ck nr Sisters	MAR-JUL APR-JUL MAR-SEP APR-SEP	32 30 42 42	35 33 46 45		37 35 48 47	95   97   96   96	39 37 50 49	42 40 54 52	39 36 50 49
	HUTES AND CROOKED (e (1000 AF) - End			=====	======================================		CHUTES AND Clark Compack Analys		
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity	*** Usabl This Year	Le Storage Last Year	***	=======     Water 	rshed	Numbe of Data S	=====	/ear as % of  /r Average
CRANE PRAIRIE	55.3	41.7	40.8	41.9	=====================================	======= :ed	4	======================================	98

Reservoir	Capacity	This	Last		Watershed	of	=======	
	1	Year	Year	Avg		Data Sites	Last Yr	Average
CRANE PRAIRIE	55.3	41.7	40.8	41.9	Crooked	4	101	98
CRESCENT LAKE	86.9	70.2	67.0	52.3	Little Deschutes	4	156	111
осносо	47.5	35.4	22.7	25.8	Deschutes above Wickiup	R 4	189	113
PRINEVILLE	153.0	108.3	102.6	102.7	Tumalo and Squaw Creeks	5	141	90
WICKIUP	200.0	187.0	193.9	176.0				
	========			======		.=======		=======

<sup>\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%,</sup> and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

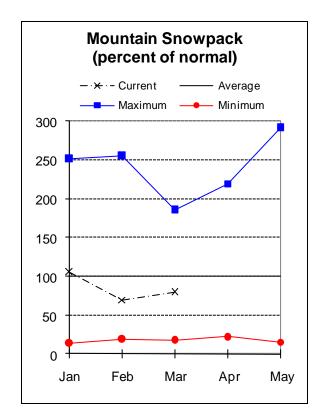
The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

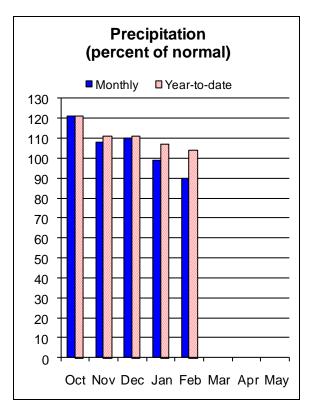
- (1) The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) The value is natural volume actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



# Hood, Mile Creeks, and Lower Deschutes Basins

March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

February precipitation in the Hood, Mile Creeks and Lower Deschutes basins was 90 percent of average. February precipitation fell mostly as snow at the mid and upper elevations. On March 1, the snowpack in the Hood, Mile Creeks and Lower Deschutes basins was 80 percent of average, a several point improvement over the February 1 percentage. Snow measurements were collected at 8 SNOTEL sites and 3 snow courses in the basin this month. As of March 1, total precipitation for water year 2011 has been 104 percent of average.

The April through September streamflow for Hood River at Tucker Bridge is forecast to be 96 percent of average. For the April through September period, the West Fork Hood River near Dee is forecast to be 95 percent of average.

At this point in the season, water users in the Hood, Mile Creeks and Lower Deschutes basin can expect near normal streamflows during the summer of 2011.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: The Dalles (541) 296-6178

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### HOOD, MILE CREEKS AND LOWER DESCHUTES BASINS Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

		Streamflow	Forecast	.s - Ma	rch 1, 20	)11 				
		<<=====	Drier ==	====	Future Co	onditions ==	===== Wett	er ====	==>>	
Forecast Point	Forecast   Period	====================================		=== Chance Of Exceeding *   50%   (1000AF) (% AVG.)		50%	30%		====   0%   00AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
WF Hood River nr Dee	APR-JUL	78	100		115	95	130		 152	121
Hood R At Tucker Bridge	APR-JUL APR-SEP	166 200	198 235		220 260	97   96   1	240 285	<del>-</del>	275 320	228 271
HOOD, MILE CREEKS Reservoir Storage (						DOD, MILE CRE Watershed Sn				
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity  	*** Usabl This Year	e Storage Last Year	* *** Avg	   Water	rshed		ber f Sites	_	/ear as % o: ======= /r Average
CLEAR LAKE (WASCO)	11.9	4.6	3.6	4.3	======   Hood	 River		7	133	82
					   Mile	Creeks		2	93	70
					   White 	e River		5	120	75

\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

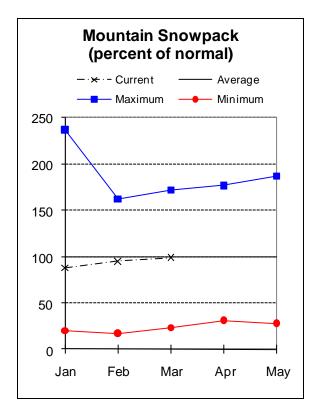
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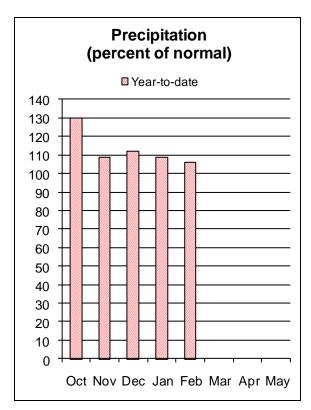
For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: The Dalles (541) 296-6178



# **Lower Columbia Basin**

March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

Since the beginning of the water year, precipitation in the Columbia basin above The Dalles has been 106 percent of average. Locally, February precipitation in the Sandy basin was 93 percent of average. For the Columbia basin above The Dalles, the March 1 snowpack was 99 percent of average, a small gain from last month.

At this point in the season, the April through September streamflow forecast for the Columbia at The Dalles is 99 percent of average. For the Sandy near Marmot, the April through September streamflow forecast is also 99 percent of average.

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### LOWER COLUMBIA BASIN Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

		Streamflow	Forecasts	- March 1, 20	)11			
Forecast Point	======================================			======================================		Wetter	=====>>   	:======== ;   
	Period	90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	(1000AF)	50%   (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10%   (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg.   (1000AF)
Columbia R at The Dalles (2)	APR-JUL APR-SEP	72100 84000	79100 92200	83900   97800	99   99	88700 103000	95700 112000	84600 98600
Sandy R nr Marmot	APR-JUL APR-SEP	240 285	280 330	310   360	99   99	340 390	380 435	313 363
LOWER ( Reservoir Storage (		of Februar		   	LOW Watershed Sno	WER COLUMBIA Owpack Analys	-	1, 2011
Reservoir	======================================	*** Usabl This Year	e Storage * Last Year A	======== **	shed	======= Numbe of Data Si	=====	Year as % of 

					====				
		*** Usabl			1			This Year	ras % of
Reservoir	Capacity	This	Last			Watershed	of	=======	
	_ I	Year	Year	Avg			Data Sites	Last Yr	Average
					= ==				
					1	Sandy	8	181	87
					-				

<sup>\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%,</sup> and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

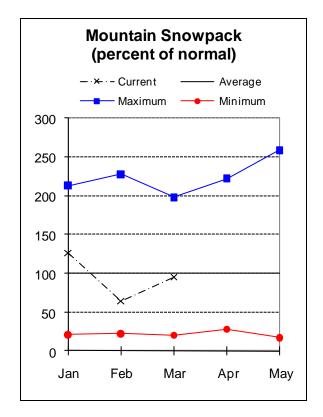
The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

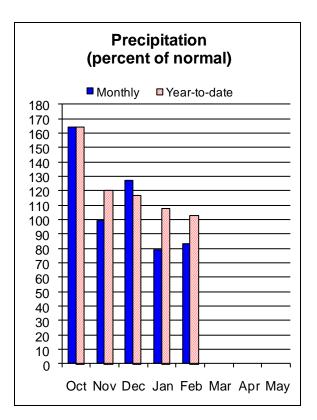
- (1) The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) The value is natural volume actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



## Willamette Basin

March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

The Willamette basin snowpack has rebounded significantly since the February 1 report. As March 1, the snowpack the basin was 95 percent of average, up from 64 percent of average on February 1. March 1 snow measurements were collected at 20 SNOTEL sites and 3 snow courses. February precipitation was 83 percent of average. Since the beginning of the water year, precipitation in the Willamette basin has been 103 percent of average.

The April through September streamflow forecasts for the Willamette basin range from 106 percent of average for Dorena Lake Inflow to of 92 percent of average for Foster Lake Inflow. Elsewhere in the basin, the McKenzie near Vida is forecast to be 102 percent of average and the Willamette River at Salem is forecast to be 98 percent of average for the April through September period. At this point in the season, water users in the Willamette basin can anticipate near average summer streamflow conditions.

The March 1 storage at Timothy Lake and Henry Hagg reservoirs in the Willamette basin was 103 percent of average and 87 percent of capacity.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: Eugene - (541) 465-6436; Portland - (503) 231-2270; Tangent - (541) 967-5925; Oregon City - (503) 656-3499; Hillsboro - (503) 648-3174; McMinnville - (503) 472-1474 Salem - (503) 399-5746; Dallas - (503) 623-5534

# WILLAMETTE BASIN Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

Proceeds Policy		•	-	=== Future Co		====== Wetter		=========
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	=======   90%   (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	(1000AF)	60%   (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10%   (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Blue Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	======== 65	99	115	102	======================================	165	113
	APR-JUL	51	77	88	102	99	125	86
	APR-SEP	52	77	88	102	99	124	86
Clackamas R at Estacada	APR-JUL	465	550	610	95	670	755	640
	APR-SEP	560	650	710	95	770	860	748
Clackamas R ab Three Lynx (2)	APR-JUL	345	400	1 440	93 I	480	535	474
	APR-SEP	420	480	520	93	560	620	562
Cottage Grove Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	31	53	l 63	105	73	95	60
, , ,	APR-JUL	13.3	34	1 43	106	52	73	41
	APR-SEP	16.2	36	1 45	105	54	74	43
Cougar Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	148	198	220	104	240	290	212
. , ,	APR-JUL	154	193	210	103	225	265	204
	APR-SEP	179	215	235	102	255	290	230
Detroit Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	345	465	520	96 l	575	695	540
	APR-JUL	340	455	505	96	555	670	528
	APR-SEP	415	535	590	96	645	765	616
Dorena Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	111	167	193	106	220	275	182
	APR-JUL	61	115	139	106	163	215	131
	APR-SEP	63	120	145	106	170	225	137
Fall Creek Lake Inflow (1,2)	APR-JUL	56	92	109	103	126	162	106
	APR-SEP	49	94	115	103	136	181	112
Fern Ridge Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	49	86	103	96 I	120	157	107
. , ,	APR-JUL	10.5	36	47	96	58	84	49
	APR-SEP	10.9	36	1 48	96 I	60	85	50

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office:

Eugene - (541) 465-6436; Portland - (503) 231-2270; Tangent - (541) 967-5925; Oregon City - (503) 656-3499; Hillsboro - (503) 648-3174; McMinnville - (503) 472-1474 Salem - (503) 399-5746; Dallas - (503) 623-5534

# WILLAMETTE BASIN Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast		-	== Future Co		===== Wetter		=======================================
	Period	90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	(1000AF)	50%   (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10%   (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Foster Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	-======= 465	535	=========   565	92	595	-======== 665	613
(-,-)	APR-JUL	370	425	1 450	92	475	530	490
	APR-SEP	405	460	485	92	510	565	527
Green Peter Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	230	335	385	92	435	540	417
	APR-JUL	177	260	300	92	340	425	327
	APR-SEP	200	285	325	92	365	450	354
Hills Creek Reservoir Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	181	265	300	104	335	420	288
	APR-JUL	186	255	290	105	325	395	277
	APR-SEP	225	300	335	105	370	445	320
Little North Santiam R nr Mehama (1)	APR-JUL	69	110	128	96	146	187	133
	APR-SEP	79	119	137	96	155	195	143
Lookout Point Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-MAY	490	695	   790	104	885	1090	759
	APR-JUL	480	670	755	104	840	1030	726
	APR-SEP	570	770	860	104	950	1150	828
MF Willamette R bl NF (1,2)	MAR-MAY	405	650	   760	105	870	1120	725
	APR-JUL	420	635	735	105	835	1050	698
	APR-SEP	490	730	840	105	950	1190	798
McKenzie R bl Trail Bridge (2)	APR-JUL	215	240	255	96	270	295	266
-	APR-SEP	345	370	390	97	410	435	404
McKenzie R nr Vida (1,2)	APR-JUL	775	930	1000	102	1070	1220	977
	APR-SEP	985	1150	1230	102	1310	1470	1201
Mohawk R nr Springfield	MAR-JUL	92	118	135	101	152	178	134
Oak Grove Fork Of Clackamas	APR-JUL APR-SEP	97 128	112 145	122   157	94   94	132 169	147 186	130 167

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office:

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#### WILLAMETTE BASIN Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

				=======	=======							
Forecast Point	Forecast		= Drier ==			nditions *				'		
Forecast Forme	Period	90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF	1	5 (1000AF)	0% (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000	; ;	30-Yr A (1000	_
North Santiam R at Mehama (1,2)	APR-JUL APR-SEP	515 610	650 745	   	710 810	97 97	=   =====     	770 875	90 101			732 834
South Santiam R at Waterloo (2)	APR-JUL APR-SEP	360 395	470 505		540 575	98 98		610 645	72 75			549 587
Scoggins Ck nr Gaston (2)	MAR-JUL	15.7	21		25	96		29	3	34		26
Thomas Ck nr Scio	MAR-JUL	91	109		121	100		133	15	51	1	21
Willamette R at Salem (1,2)	MAR-MAY APR-JUL APR-SEP	3440 2570 3060	4710 3730 4200		5290 4260 4720	98 98 98	     	5870 4790 5240	714 595 638	50	43	101 347 304
WILLAM Reservoir Storage (10	======== ETTE BASIN 00 AF) - End	of Februar	-	======		======== Watershed	Snowpac	_	is - N		<b>,</b> 2011	:===
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity  	*** Usabl This Year	e Storage Last Year		=======     Water 	shed		Numbe of Data Si	r	This Y	====== ear as % ====== r Aver	
BLUE RIVER	85.5	16.5	22.2	31.9	======   Clack	amas	======	- <b></b> 5	=====	196	70	:===:
COTTAGE GROVE	29.8	7.8	8.4	10.2	   McKen	zie		8		218	82	
COUGAR	155.2	23.5	17.7	114.3	   Row R 	iver		1		432	70	

300.7 58.0 79.1 141.8 | Santiam 352 78 DETROIT 70.5 DORENA 15.7 18.6 26.7 | Middle Fork Willamette 199 103 115.5 24.8 23.1 40.5 I FALL CREEK

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office:

Eugene - (541) 465-6436; Portland - (503) 231-2270; Tangent - (541) 967-5925; Oregon City - (503) 656-3499; Hillsboro - (503) 648-3174; McMinnville - (503) 472-1474 Salem - (503) 399-5746; Dallas - (503) 623-5534

WILLAMET Reservoir Storage (100	-	of Februa	ary	 	WILLAMETTE BASIN   Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 20				
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity	This	ole Stora Last Year		Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of  Last Yr Average		
FERN RIDGE	109.6	37 <b>.</b> 1	44.0	45.5		========			
FOSTER	29.7	3.1	8.9	9.6					
GREEN PETER	268.2	43.8	88.0	173.2					
HILLS CREEK	200.2	51.0	35.2	119.0					
LOOKOUT POINT	337.0	82.6	37.9	116.8					
TIMOTHY LAKE	61.7	54.0	54.2	51.5					
HENRY HAGG LAKE	53.0	45.8	46.9	45.4					

<sup>\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%,</sup> and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

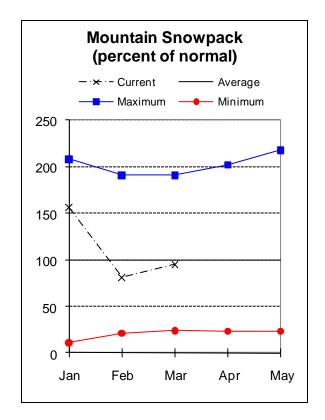
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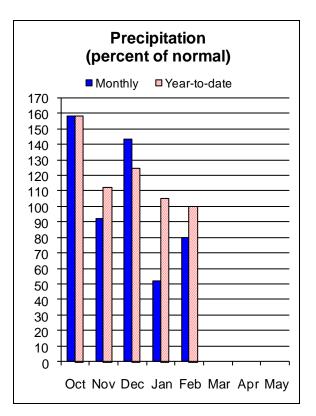
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# **Rogue and Umpqua Basins**

March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

As of March 1, the snowpack in the Rogue and Umpqua basins was 95 percent of average, up from 81 percent of average on February 1. Snow measurements were collected at 12 SNOTEL sites and 20 snow courses. February precipitation was 80 percent of average. Since the beginning of the water year, precipitation in the Rogue and Umpqua basin has been 100 percent of average.

The March 1 storage at 5 irrigation reservoirs in the Rogue and Umpqua basins was 101 percent of average and 69 percent of capacity.

The April through September streamflow forecasts for the Rogue and Umpqua basin range from 90 percent of average for Applegate Lake inflow to 105 percent of average for South Umpqua near Brockway. Elsewhere in the basin, the Rogue River at Grants Pass is forecast to be 102 percent of average for the April through September period. Water users in the Rogue and Umpqua basins can expect slightly below to near average streamflows for the coming summer.

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#### ROGUE AND UMPQUA BASINS Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

			====>>					
Forecast Point	Forecast			= Chance Of E	xceeding * =	========	 =======	
101ccase forme	Period	1 90%	70%		0%	30%	10%	30-Yr Avg.
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)
				I	· ·			1.00
Applegate Lake Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	80	118	144	90	170	210	160
	APR-JUL	59 88	84	101	90   90	118 179	143 220	112 170
	MAR-SEP		127 90	153   107	90	124	150	
	APR-SEP	64	90	1 107	90	124	150	119
SF Big Butte Ck nr Butte Falls	APR-JUL	21	29	34	100	39	47	34
-	APR-SEP	29	37	1 43	99	49	57	44
Cow Ck nr Azalea (2)	MAR-JUL	10.8	21	l l 28	97 I	35	45	29
oow on hi haarda (2)	APR-JUL	5.3	11.7	16.0	97	20	27	16.5
	APR-SEP	6.1	12.7	17.2	97	22	28	17.7
					i			
Hyatt Prairie Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	0.9	2.8	4.1	85	5.4	7.3	4.8
Illinois R at Kerby	APR-JUL	71	135	I 179	100	225	285	179
-	APR-SEP	78	142	186	100	230	295	186
NF Little Butte Ck nr Lakecreek (2)	APR-JUL	24	29	l I 32	101	35	40	32
,	APR-SEP	37	43	47	102	51	57	46
Lost Creek Lake Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	520	605	   665	97 I	725	810	685
	APR-JUL	405	470	515	97 1	560	625	530
	MAR-SEP	640	735	800	97	865	960	825
	APR-SEP	520	595	645	97	695	770	665
Rogue R at Raygold (2)	APR-JUL	475	615	   710	97 I	805	945	730
nogue it de imageia (2)	APR-SEP	620	765	865	97	965	1110	890
Paggio P at Cranta Paga (2)	דווד ממג	485	645	   755	102	865	1030	740
Rogue R at Grants Pass (2)	APR-JUL APR-SEP	485 615	790	1 905	102	1020	1190	885
	APR-SEP	013	790	1 905	102	1020	1190	883
Sucker Ck bl Ltl Grayback Ck nr Holl	L APR-JUL	29	43	53	102	63	77	52
-	APR-SEP	33	47	57	102	67	81	56
North Umpqua R at Winchester	APR-JUL	540	695	   795	100	895	1050	795
months of the second of the se	APR-SEP	660	815	920	100	1030	1180	920

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office:

Roseburg - (541) 673-8316; Medford - (541) 776-4267

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#### ROGUE AND UMPQUA BASINS Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

		Stream110	w Forecast	s - Ma. 	ren 1, 20				
		<<====	= Drier ==	==== ]	Future Co	nditions ====	=== Wetter	====>>	
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	   ======   90%   (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	1	5	xceeding * ====: 0%	30% (1000AF)	====== 10% (1000AF)	   30-Yr Avg.   (1000AF)
South Umpqua R nr Brockway	APR-JUL APR-SEP	210 230	335 355	== ====     	420 440	105   105	505 525	630 650	400 420
South Umpqua R at Tiller	APR-JUL APR-SEP	113 124	164 175	     	199 210	103   102	235 245	285 295	193 205
ROGUE Reservoir Storage	======================================		======= ry	=====	   	ROGUE Watershed Snow	AND UMPQUA pack Analys		1, 2011
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity	*** Usab This Year	======= le Storage Last Year	*** Avg	=======     Water 	shed	Numbe of Data Si	====	Year as % of
APPLEGATE	75.2	13.7	16.7	27.3	======   Apple	gate	 6	117	92
EMIGRANT LAKE	39.0	28.4	22.4	28.0	   Bear	Creek	5	106	86
FISH LAKE	8.0	4.3	5.0	5.6	   Littl	e Butte Creek	6	143	83
FOURMILE LAKE	16.1	8.3	8.6	9.4	   Illin	ois	3	190	116
HOWARD PRAIRIE	60.0	41.2	39.3	41.2	   North	Umpqua	9	269	95

\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the

56.0

11.0 I

218.2 |

Rogue River above Grants 21

139

93

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

HYATT PRAIRIE

LOST CREEK

table.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.

14.1 12.5

70.0

(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

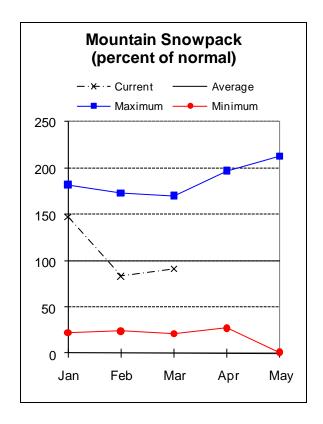
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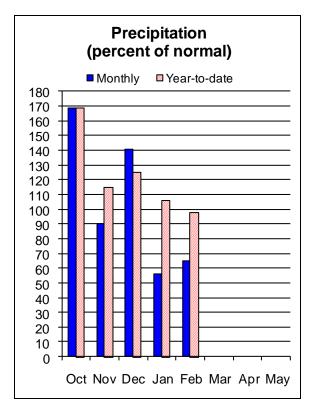
315.0

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office:

Roseburg - (541) 673-8316; Medford - (541) 776-4267 Or visit: http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cgibin/bor.pl







#### **Water Supply Outlook**

As of March 1, the snowpack in the Klamath basin measured 91 percent of average, up from 83 percent of average on February 1. Snow measurements were collected at 15 SNOTEL sites, 5 snow courses and 7 aerial markers for the March 1 survey. Precipitation for the month of February was 65 percent of average - the lowest in the state. Since the beginning of the water year, precipitation in the Klamath basin has been 98 percent of average.

The March 1 storage at Upper Klamath Lake, Clear Lake (CA) and Gerber reservoirs was 77 percent of average or 46 percent of capacity.

Despite the improvement to the snowpack, there has been very little change in the Klamath basin streamflow forecasts since the February Water Supply Outlook Report. The April through September streamflow forecasts for the Klamath basin range from 97 percent of average for Upper Klamath Lake inflow to 106 percent of average for Clear Lake (CA) reservoir inflow. Water users in the Klamath basin can expect near to average streamflows for the summer of 2011.

#### KLAMATH BASIN Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

			======================================				=====>>	========
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	=======   90%   (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	ondince of D	xceeding * = 0%   (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10%   (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Clear Lake Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	30 22	63 39	====================================	106   106	107 63	140 80	80 48
Gerber Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	17.0	30	39	105	48	61	37
	APR-SEP	5.2	13.2	18.7	105	24	32	17.8
Sprague R nr Chiloquin	MAR-JUL	190	245	280	102	315	370	275
	MAR-SEP	215	270	310	102	350	405	305
	APR-SEP	149	191	235	102	250	290	230
Upper Klamath Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAR-JUL	405	540	605	97	670	805	625
	MAR-SEP	445	590	695	97	730	875	720
	APR-SEP	350	455	500	97	545	650	515
Williamson R bl Sprague R nr Chiloqu	MAR-JUL	315	380	425	97	470	535	440
	MAR-SEP	375	445	490	97	535	605	505
	APR-SEP	285	340	375	97	410	465	385
KT.AMAT	:======:: 'H BASIN		-=======	======================================	========	====== KLAMATH BAS	======= TN	========

Reservoir Storage (100	00 AF) - End	of Febru	ary			ack Analysis -	alysis - March 1, 2011				
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity	*** Usa This Year	ble Stora. Last Year	.ge ***     Avg	Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Yea ======= Last Yr	r as % of ======= Average			
CLEAR LAKE (CALIF)	513.3	79.9	65.2	224.2	Lost	3	110	101			
GERBER	94.3	29.3	29.3	54.5	Sprague	8	111	93			
UPPER KLAMATH LAKE	523.7	414.2	252.2	402.6	Upper Klamath Lake	7	124	88			
					Williamson River	5	123	97			

<sup>\*</sup> 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table. The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office:

Klamath Falls - (541) 883-6932

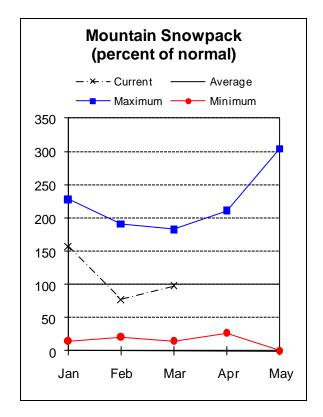
<sup>(1) -</sup> The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.

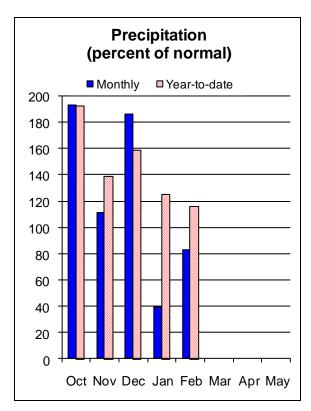
<sup>(2) -</sup> The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



# **Lake County and Goose Lake**

March 1, 2011





#### **Water Supply Outlook**

Snow surveyors in Lake County and Goose Lake basin observed a return to winter conditions on the March 1 survey. The March 1 snowpack in Lake County and Goose Lake basin was 98 percent of average, up from 77 percent of average on February 1. Snow measurements were collected for the March 1 survey at 9 SNOTEL sites, 8 aerial markers and 1 snow course. February precipitation was 83 percent of average. Since the beginning of the water year, precipitation has been 116 percent of average.

March 1 storage at Cottonwood and Drews reservoirs was 75 percent of average and 43 percent of capacity.

There have been some changes to the streamflow forecasts in Lake County and Goose Lake basin since the February Water Supply Outlook Report. As of March 1, the April through September forecasts range from 97 percent of average for the Chewaucan River near Paisley to 121 percent of average for Twentymile Creek near Adel. At this point in the season, water users in the Lake County and Goose Lake basins may anticipate near to above average water supplies during the summer of 2011.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: Lakeview - (541) 947-2202

#### TAND CONDUCTION AND COOR LAND DAGING

#### LAKE COUNTY AND GOOSE LAKE BASINS Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast		-			nditions ==== xceeding * ===				=======
rolecast roint	Period	90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)			0%   (% AVG.)	30% (1000A	1 F) (10	.0%    00AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Chewaucan R nr Paisley	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	60 52	76 66		87 76	98   97	98 86		114 100	89 78
Deep Ck ab Adel	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	58 47	75 62		87 72	104   104	99 82		116 97	84 69
Honey Ck nr Plush	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	14.1 10.5	18.8 15.2		22 18.3	110   110	25 21		30 26	20 16.6
Silver Ck nr Silver Lake (2)	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	8.2 5.2	12.0 8.8		14.6 11.2	100   100	17.2 13.6		21 .7.2	14.6 11.2
Twentymile Ck nr Adel	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	14.6 7.0	26 15.4		34 21	121   121	42 27		53 35	28 17.4
LAKE COUNTY A	·	of Februa:	-			LAKE COUNT Watershed Snow	pack Ana	lysis -	March 1,	
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity		======= le Storage Last Year				Nu	===== mber of Sites	This Ye	ar as % of
COTTONWOOD	 8.7			_	1	ucan River				
DREWS	63.0	23.0	4.4	37.5	   Deep	Creek		1	110	92
					Drew	Creek		4	111	78
					Honey	Creek		1	110	92
					Silve	r Creek (Lake	Co.)	5	112	97

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For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office: Lakeview - (541) 947-2202

Twentymile Creek

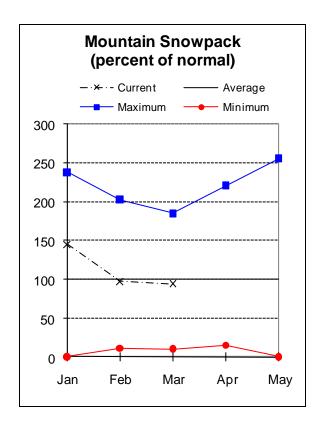
110

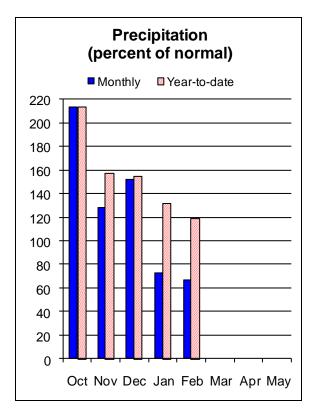
<sup>\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%,</sup> and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table. The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

<sup>(1) -</sup> The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.

<sup>(2) -</sup> The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.







#### **Water Supply Outlook**

On March 1, the snowpack in the Harney basin was 94 percent of average. Snow measurements were collected at 9 SNOTEL sites and 7 aerial markers in the basin this month. Monthly precipitation was below average for the second month in row in the Harney basin during February. Since the beginning of the water year, total precipitation has been 119 percent of average.

At this point in the season, summer streamflow forecasts for most points in the basin are above average. In particular, the April through September forecast for the Donner Und Blitzen Rivernear Frenchglen and the Silvies River near Burns are both expected to be 111 percent of average. The forecast for Trout Creek near Denio is 115 percent of average for the same period. Water users in the Harney basin can anticipate above average water supplies during the summer of 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_\_

### HARNEY BASIN

		Streamflow	Forecasts	- Mai	rch 1, 20	11				
		========   <<===== 	 Drier ====	==== I	Future Co	nditions ==	===== We	====== etter ===	:==>>   	
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	=======   90%   (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)		5 (1000AF)	xceeding * = 0%   (% AVG.)	309 (1000	\$ 1 OAF) (10	0%   00AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Donner Und Blitzen R nr Frenchglen	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	55 51	72 67	   	83 78	111	9	94	111 105	75 70
Silvies R nr Burns	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	72 44	114 84		143 110	111	17 13		215 176	129 99
Trout Ck nr Denio	MAR-JUL APR-SEP	7.7 6.6	10.7		12.8 11.8	115   115	14. 13.		7.9	11.1 10.3
HARNE Reservoir Storage (100	======================================	of Februar	 :y			Watershed Sn	HARNEY owpack Ar	nalysis -		, 2011
Reservoir	Usable   Capacity  		e Storage * Last		     Water 		1	Number of a Sites	This Y	ear as % of ======= r Average
	========			=====	======   Donne	r und Blitze	======= n River	5	95	90
					   Silve	r Creek (Har	ney Co.)	2	127	110
					   Silvi	es River		6	97	94
					   Trout 	Creek		6	102	110

\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) The value is natural volume actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

# **Recession Forecasts for Oregon**

Recession flow forecasts are presented below for key streamflow sites where reliable daily streamflow data are available. The recession flow forecasts use exceedance probabilities in a format similar to the standard water supply forecasts presented in this document. Each forecast provides a range of possible outcomes representing the uncertainty of forecasting models.

The types of forecasts in the table below are:

- 1) Threshold flow -- Date that the daily streamflow rate falls below the given threshold flow
- 2) Peak flow -- Maximum daily flow
- 3) Date of peak flow -- Date of occurrence of maximum daily flow
- 4) Average daily flow on a given date

OWYHEE AND MALHEUR BASINS								
FORECAST POINT	FORECAST FORECAST VALUE LONG-TERM THRESHOLD CHANCE OF EXCEEDING AVERAGE VALUE							
		90%	50%	10%				
Owyhee R nr Rome	2000 cfs	Mar 24	May 05	Jun 16	May 6			
Owyhee R nr Rome	1000 cfs	Apr 03	May 16	Jun 28	May 18			
Owyhee R nr Rome	500 cfs	Apr 21	Jun 02	Jul 14	Jun 2			

UPPER JOHN DAY BASIN								
FORECAST POINT	FORECAST THRESHOLD	FORECAST VALUE LONG-TERMCHANCE OF EXCEEDING AVERAGE VALUE						
		90%	50%	10%				
John Day R at Service Creek	Average Daily Flow on Aug. 1st	131	355	580	271			

UPPER DESCHUTES AND CROOKED BASINS								
FORECAST POINT	FORECAST THRESHOLD		DRECAST VAL HANCE OF EXC	LONG-TERM AVERAGE VALUE				
		90%	50%	10%				
Crane Prairie Inflow *	Date of Peak	May 09*	May 25*	Jun 10*	May 25			
Crane Prairie Inflow	Peak Flow	235	375	515	403			
Crane Prairie Inflow	Average Daily Flow on Oct. 1st	197	245	295	269			
Prineville Reservoir Inflow	113 cfs	May 13	Jun 05	Jun 28	June 3			
Prineville Reservoir Inflow	75 cfs	May 18	Jun 11	Jul 05	June 11			
Prineville Reservoir Inflow	50 cfs	May 24	Jun 18	Jul 13	June 19			
Whychus Creek nr Sisters	100 cfs	Jul 23	Aug 16	Sep 11	August 16			

<sup>\*</sup>No prediction possible until April 1. Historic values are shown for reference prior to the April 1 report.

ROGUE AND UMPQUA BASINS								
FORECAST POINT	FORECAST THRESHOLD	_	ORECAST VAL HANCE OF EXC	LONG-TERM AVERAGE VALUE				
		90%						
South Umpqua R nr Brockway *	90 cfs	Jul 23	Aug 10	Aug 27	August 8			
South Umpqua R at Tiller	140 cfs	Jun 22	Jul 13	Aug 02	July 11			
South Umpqua R at Tiller	90 cfs	Jul 12	Aug 03	Aug 27	August 1			
South Umpqua R at Tiller	60 cfs	Aug 02	Aug 31	Sep 26	August 28			

<sup>\*</sup>Dates are based on streamflow data adjusted for releases from Galesville Reservoir to reflect natural flow conditions and do not match observed gage data. There is an approximately 20% chance in any given year that the flow will not recede below 90 cfs; the dates given here are for the event that the flow does recede below 90 cfs.

LAKE COUNTY AND GOOSE LAKE BASINS								
FORECAST POINT	FORECAST THRESHOLD		DRECAST VAL HANCE OF EXC	LONG-TERM AVERAGE VALUE				
		90%	50%	10%				
Deep Ck ab Adel	100 cfs	May 27	Jun 18	Jul 10	June 17			
Honey Ck nr Plush	100 cfs	Apr 14	May 17	Jun 19	May 16			
Honey Ck nr Plush	50 cfs	May 02	Jun 01	Jul 01	June 4			
Twentymile Ck nr Adel	50 cfs	May 02	May 28	Jun 23	May 30			
Twentymile Ck nr Adel	10 cfs	Jun 15	Jul 08	Aug 02	July 20			

HARNEY BASIN								
FORECAST POINT	FORECAST THRESHOLD		ORECAST VAL HANCE OF EXC	LONG-TERM AVERAGE VALUE				
		90%	50%	10%				
Silvies R nr Burns	400 cfs	Apr 22	May 21	Jun 19	May 21			
	200 cfs	May 09	Jun 07	Jul 06	June 2			
	100 cfs	May 22	Jun 23	Jul 23	June 13			
	50 cfs	Jun 12	Jul 17	Aug 22	July 3			
Donner Und Blitzen R nr Frenchglen	200 cfs	May 19	Jun 10	Jul 02	June 20			
Donner Und Blitzen R nr Frenchglen	100 cfs	Jun 10	Jun 30	Jul 18	July 9			

# **Summary of Snow Course Data**

### March 2011

SNOW COURSE					LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
Oregon						
ALTHOUSE #2	4530	2/28/11		5.4E	.0	4.7
ANEROID LAKE SNO	TEL 7400	3/01/11	61	14.1	12.2	21.0
ANNIE SPRING SNOT	EL 6010	3/01/11	92	32.4	27.4	33.5
ANTHONY LAKE (REV	) 7130	2/28/11	61	19.2	16.0	
ARBUCKLE MTN SNO	TEL 5770	3/01/11	55	13.9	13.2	18.5
BARNEY CREEK (NEW	) 5840	3/01/11	32	9.1	8.9	
BEAR FLAT MEADOW	AM 5900	3/01/11	23	7.1		11.1
BEAVER DAM CREEK	5100	3/01/11	32	11.7	7.6	11.4
BEAVER RES. SNO	TEL 5150	3/01/11	30	7.9	6.7	8.6
BIG RED MTN SNO		3/01/11	68	20.5	18.7	22.5
BIGELOW CAMP SNO		3/01/11	46	13.6	4.9	12.7
BILLIE CK DVD SNO		3/01/11	51	18.7	12.9	21.4
BLAZED ALDER SNO		3/01/11	96	24.9	9.4	30.1
BLUE MTN SPGS SNO		3/01/11	47	14.2	12.8	15.7
BOULDER CREEK	AM 5690	3/01/11	8	2.6	5.0	3.8
BOURNE SNO		3/01/11	37	10.3	12.2	16.6
BOWMAN SPRNGS SNO		3/01/11	26	7.2	4.4	9.1
BUCK PASTURE	AM 5700	3/01/11	8	2.5	3.2	2.4
		3/01/11	3			
BUCKSKIN LAKE	AM 5200			.9	.0	.5
BULLY CREEK	AM 5300	3/01/11	6	1.8	5.6	2.2
CALIBAN ALT	6500	2/25/11	71	23.0	21.4	25.2
CALL MEADOWS	AM 5340	3/01/11	10	3.2	7.4	4.2
CAMAS CREEK #3	5850	3/02/11	35	10.9	9.9	11.9
CASCADE SUM. SNO		3/01/11	93	35.8	19.4	27.2
CHEMULT ALT SNO		3/01/11	29	9.0	5.8	8.1
CLACKAMAS LK. SNO		3/01/11	46	8.5	4.0	12.3
CLEAR LAKE SNO		3/01/11	46	8.1	3.0	13.2
COLD SPRINGS SNO		3/01/11	65	24.3	18.2	27.0
COUNTY LINE SNO		3/01/11	13	2.6	1.9	4.6
COX FLAT	AM 5750	3/01/11	20	6.2		7.1
CRAZYMAN FLAT	AM 6100	3/01/11	9	2.8		9.1
CRAZYMAN FLAT SNO	TEL 6180	3/01/11	42	13.0	11.6	15.7
DALY LAKE SNO	TEL 3690	3/01/11	44	8.6	.0	15.0
DEADHORSE GRADE	3700	3/01/11	26	6.2	.0	8.5
DEADWOOD JUNCTION	4600	3/01/11	21	6.7	5.0	6.9
DERR	5670	2/28/11	28	8.7	9.2	9.7
DERR SNO	TEL 5850	3/01/11	42	12.6	12.0	13.7
DIAMOND LAKE SNO	TEL 5280	3/01/11	38	13.5	8.4	15.0
DOG HOLLOW	AM 4900	3/01/11	7	1.8		1.0
DOOLEY MOUNTAIN	5430	3/01/11	31	8.8	11.2	7.9
EAST EAGLE	4400	3/01/11	58	18.9	9.1	23.3
EILERTSON SNO		3/01/11	29	9.6	9.0	9.6
ELDORADO PASS	4600	3/01/11	17	5.6	6.2	3.4
EMIGRANT SPGS SNO		3/01/11	26	7.2	2.3	5.7
FINLEY CORRALS	AM 6000	3/01/11	42	13.0		14.8
FISH CREEK SNO		3/01/11	74	26.5	20.7	23.9
FISH LK. SNO		3/01/11	35	9.1	4.9	11.1
FLAG PRAIRIE	AM 4750	3/01/11	19	6.1	6.8	4.5
FOURMILE LAKE SNO		3/01/11	57	18.9	15.8	27.1
GERBER RES SNO		3/01/11	6	1.5	.0	1.4
GOLD CENTER SNO		3/01/11	25	8.4	8.3	10.3
GOVT CORRALS AM	7450	3/01/11	42	13.4	12.4	
GRAYBACK PEAK	6000	3/01/11	68 5.6	21.3	16.3	17.2
GREENPOINT SNO		3/01/11	56	9.9	8.7	17.8
HIGH PRAIRIE	6100	2/28/11	86	27.7	32.6	41.1
HIGH RIDGE SNO		3/01/11	75	21.8	15.3	21.2
	TEL 4790	3/01/11	67	18.3	16.1	34.0
HOLLAND MDWS SNO	TEL 4930	3/01/11	54	14.7	3.4	21.0

SNOW COURSE	OW COURSE ELEVATION		DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
Oregon (continue	d)						
HOWARD PRAIRIE	450	00	3/01/11	19	5.8	3.3	7.3
HUNGRY FLAT	440		2/25/11	12	2.2	.2	3.4
	OTEL 55		3/01/11	89	26.5	20.4	30.7
	OTEL 352		3/01/11	53	12.4	.0	11.4
KING MTN #1	450		2/28/11	37	9.3	1.8	6.7
KING MTN #2 SNO KING MTN #3	OTEL 434 365		3/01/11 2/28/11	27 20	6.5 4.2	.0	3.8 1.0
KING MIN #3 KING MTN #4	30		2/28/11	7	1.0	.0	.1
	OTEL 52		3/01/11	33	8.3	9.5	11.6
LITTLE ALPS	620		2/28/11	38	10.3	7.6	11.1
LITTLE ANTONE (AI			2/28/11	26	7.3	8.0	8.4
LITTLE MEADOW SNO			3/01/11	93	27.3	8.5	22.8
LOOKOUT BUTTE	AM 565	50	3/01/11	4	1.3	.0	.3
LOUSE CANYON	AM 644	40	3/01/11	26	8.3	6.5	5.8
LUCKY STRIKE SNO	OTEL 49	70	3/01/11	30	9.5	5.7	9.3
MADISON BUTTE SNO			3/01/11	19	5.2	4.1	4.8
	OTEL 259		3/01/11	23	5.5	.0	10.2
MARKS CREEK	454		2/25/11	13	3.6	1.8	3.2
MARY'S PEAK REV	362		2/25/11	34	6.4	.0	5.8
	OTEL 47		3/01/11	105	36.7	19.7	37.5
MEACHAM	430		3/02/11 2/28/11	24	7.2	8.0	8.5
MILL CREEK MDW	44(			36	8.7	6.4	10.6
	OTEL 42 OTEL 570	20 60	3/01/11 3/01/11	0 66	.0 20.1	.0 17.0	22.2
MT ASHLAND SWBK.	64(		2/25/11	65	21.3	21.2	27.2
MT HOOD	53		3/01/11	141	43.7E	35.5	53.9
	OTEL 53		3/01/11	129	40.1	32.4	48.4
	TEL 791		3/01/11	37	11.6	11.3	12.8
	OTEL 40		3/01/11	81	18.7	13.6	21.9
NEW CRESCENT SNO	OTEL 493	10	3/01/11	44	11.4	8.4	11.0
NEW DUTCHMAN #3	632	20	2/25/11	120	38.9	29.9	46.1
NORTH FK RES SNO	OTEL 30	60	3/01/11	78	18.1	2.4	16.4
NORTH UMPQUA	422		3/01/11	28	9.0	1.5	10.7
OCHOCO MEADOWS	520		2/25/11	33	9.5	10.9	9.6
OCHOCO MEADOW SNO			3/01/11	28	9.6	14.1	9.3
OREGON CANYON	AM 695		3/01/11	17	5.4	7.8	5.5
PARK H.Q. REV	655		2/28/11	121	45.4	34.6	48.0
PATTON MEADOWS	AM 680		3/01/11	36 47	11.1 10.6	2 0	15.1
PEAVINE RIDGE SNO	OTEL 342 AM 680		3/01/11	47 17	5.4	2.8 5.9	13.2 2.5
PUEBLO SUMMIT QUARTZ MTN SNO			3/01/11 3/01/11	7	1.4	.8	2.3
R.R. OVERPASS SNO		30	3/01/11		3.0	.0	
RED BUTTE #1	450		2/23/11		12.2	.7	10.2
RED BUTTE #2	400		2/23/11	17	2.8	.0	5.3
RED BUTTE #3	350		2/23/11	19	3.5	.0	2.3
RED BUTTE #4	300	00	2/23/11	8	1.5	.0	.8
RED HILL SNO	OTEL 441	10	3/01/11	110	38.6	26.1	41.4
ROARING RIVER SNO		50	3/01/11	74	25.6	12.1	
ROCK SPRINGS SNO	OTEL 529	90	3/01/11	19	6.1	7.7	5.3
	OTEL 313		3/01/11	79	21.4	.0	6.2
SALT CK FALLS SNO			3/01/11	66	22.4	2.7	16.5
SANTIAM JCT. SNO			3/01/11	57	14.5	.0	
SCHNEIDER MDW SNO			3/01/11		22.4	22.7	
	OTEL 200		3/01/11	21	4.1	.1	2.9
SEVENMILE MARSH S SILVER BURN	SNTL 570 372		3/01/11 2/28/11	69 43	21.9 13.6	18.3 4.5	26.7 10.5
SILVER BORN SILVER CREEK SNO			3/01/11	33	11.1	11.7	9.8
	OTEL 699		3/01/11	43	4.8	12.2	15.6
SISKIYOU SUMMIT F			2/25/11		6.1	4.1	5.3
SKI BOWL ROAD	600		2/25/11		17.5	18.0	22.0
	OTEL 622		3/01/11	33	10.1	7.6	10.3
SF BULL RUN SNO	OTEL 269	90	3/01/11		8.6	.0	2.8
STARR RIDGE SNO	OTEL 525		3/01/11	24	7.8	6.5	6.0
STRAWBERRY SNO			3/01/11			4.7	5.5
SUMMER RIM SNO	OTEL 708	30	3/01/11	48	14.8	12.1	15.2

Oregon (continued)           SUMMIT LAKE SNOTEL 5610 3/01/11 88 29.8 21.4           SUN PASS SNOTEL 5400 3/01/11 47 15.2 18.1           SWAN LAKE MTN SNOTEL 6830 3/01/11 56 18.7 17.9           SYCAN FLAT AM 5500 3/01/11 13 4.4           TANGENT 5400 2/25/11 50 15.0 16.0           TAYLOR BUTTE SNOTEL 5030 3/01/11 23 7.4 5.8	31.5  5.5 19.9 6.0 18.9 10.4 12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1 9.7 7.3
SUN PASS     SNOTEL     5400     3/01/11     47     15.2     18.1       SWAN LAKE MTN SNOTEL     6830     3/01/11     56     18.7     17.9       SYCAN FLAT     AM     5500     3/01/11     13     4.4        TANGENT     5400     2/25/11     50     15.0     16.0       TAYLOR BUTTE     5030     3/01/11     23     7.4     5.8	5.5 19.9 6.0 18.9 16.9 10.4 12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1
SWAN LAKE MTN SNOTEL     6830     3/01/11     56     18.7     17.9       SYCAN FLAT     AM     5500     3/01/11     13     4.4        TANGENT     5400     2/25/11     50     15.0     16.0       TAYLOR BUTTE     5030     3/01/11     23     7.4     5.8	5.5 19.9 6.0 18.9 16.9 10.4 12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1
SYCAN FLAT       AM       5500       3/01/11       13       4.4          TANGENT       5400       2/25/11       50       15.0       16.0         TAYLOR BUTTE       SNOTEL       5030       3/01/11       23       7.4       5.8	5.5 19.9 6.0 18.9 16.9 10.4 12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1 9.7
TANGENT 5400 2/25/11 50 15.0 16.0 TAYLOR BUTTE SNOTEL 5030 3/01/11 23 7.4 5.8	19.9 6.0 18.9 16.9 10.4 12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1 9.7
TAYLOR BUTTE SNOTEL 5030 3/01/11 23 7.4 5.8	6.0 18.9 16.9 10.4 12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1 9.7
	18.9 16.9 10.4 12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1 9.7
	16.9 10.4 12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1 9.7
TAYLOR GREEN SNOTEL 5740 3/01/11 53 18.3 16.8 THREE CK MEAD SNOTEL 5690 3/01/11 64 19.1 13.5	10.4 12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1 9.7
TIMOTHY LAKE 3300 2/25/11 18 4.1E	12.8 5.8 24.5 9.1 9.7
TIPTON SNOTEL 5150 3/01/11 34 10.9 10.4	5.8 24.5 9.1 9.7
TOKETEE AIRSTRIP SN 3240 3/01/11 12 3.7 .0	24.5 9.1 9.7
TOLLGATE 5070 3/02/11 82 24.0 17.6	9.1 9.7
TRAP CREEK 3800 3/01/11 34 10.2 .0	9.7
TROUT CREEK AM 7800 3/01/11 34 10.9 12.4	
V LAKE AM 6600 3/01/11 28 10.1 10.9	
WOLF CREEK SNOTEL 5630 3/01/11 50 12.7 11.2	14.7
California	
ADIN MOUNTAIN 6350 2/28/11 43 12.7 10.2	11.7
ADIN MTN SNOTEL 6190 3/01/11 42 13.2 11.6	12.2
CEDAR PASS SNOTEL 7030 3/01/11 48 15.4 12.7	15.6
CROWDER FLAT AM 5200 3/01/11 7 2.5E	2.3
CROWDER FLAT SNOTEL 5170 3/01/11 14 5.0 4.7	4.7
DISMAL SWAMP SNOTEL 7360 3/01/11 79 26.5 18.6	23.7
STATE LINE AM 5750 3/01/11 8 2.5	6.8
Idaho	
BATTLE CREEK AM 5720 3/01/11 19 5.9 5.2	3.9
BULL BASIN AM 5460 3/01/11 5 1.6 3.5	1.6
MUD FLAT SNOTEL 5730 3/01/11 32 8.6 8.2	6.8
RED CANYON AM 6650 3/01/11 29 9.0 11.5	7.3
SOUTH MTN SNOTEL 6500 3/01/11 39 13.2 14.0	17.1
SUCCOR CREEK AM 6100 3/01/11 28 8.7	7.4
VAUGHT RANCH AM 5830 3/01/11 16 5.0 5.8	4.7
Nevada	
BEAR CREEK SNOTEL 7800 3/01/11 68 18.8 8.4	17.1
BIG BEND SNOTEL 6700 3/01/11 33 9.4 7.2	8.6
BUCKSKIN, L SNOTEL 6700 3/01/11 39 9.5 7.6	8.5
COLUMBIA BASIN AM 6650 2/23/11 21 6.1 10.6	8.8
DISASTER PEAK SNOTEL 6500 3/01/11 20 6.4 6.6 FAWN CREEK SNOTEL 7050 3/01/11 50 13.2 11.6	9.7
FAWN CREEK SNOTEL 7050 3/01/11 50 13.2 11.6 FRY CANYON 6700 2/23/11 22 7.4 8.0	14.4 7.3
GOLD CREEK 6600 2/23/11 21 6.2 6.4	7.3 5.6
GRANITE PEAK SNOTEL 7800 3/01/11 66 19.6 10.7	19.7
JACK CREEK, U SNOTEL 7280 3/01/11 50 11.7 10.7	15.7
LAMANCE CREEK SNOTEL 6000 3/01/11 30 8.5 8.5	12.6
LAUREL DRAW SNOTEL 6700 3/01/11 30 8.6 8.9	9.2
MERRIT MOUNTAIN AM 7000 2/23/11 16 4.6 10.5	6.6
MIDAS (d) 7200 2/23/11 12 3.5 4.9	3.7
QUINN RIDGE AM 6300 3/01/11 13 4.2 .0	2.1
SEVENTYSIX CK SNOTEL 7100 3/01/11 35 8.3 7.0	10.9
STAG MOUNTAIN AM 7700 2/23/11 18 5.2 3.0	5.3
TAYLOR CANYON SNOTEL 6200 3/01/11 19 5.1 4.1	5.3
TOE JAM AM 7700 2/23/11 27 7.8 6.5	9.4
TREMEWAN RANCH 5700 2/23/11 0 .0 3.1	1.9

<sup>(</sup>d) denotes discontinued site.

# Basin Outlook Reports; How Forecasts Are Made

# And Federal – State – Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

For more water supply and resource management information, contact:

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service Snow Survey Office 1201 NE Lloyd; Suite 900 Portland, OR 97232

Phone: (503) 414-3270 Web site: http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/index.html

Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual snowcourses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with precipitation, antecedent streamflow, and indices of the El Niño / Southern Oscillation are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to prepare runoff forecasts. These forecasts are coordinated between hydrologists in the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences

Forecasts of any kind, of course, are not perfect. Streamflow forecast uncertainty arises from three primary sources: (1) uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, (2) uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and (3) errors in the data. The forecast, therefore, must be interpreted not as a single value but rather as a range of values with specific probabilities of occurrence. The middle of the range is expressed by the 50% exceedance probability forecast, for which there is a 50% chance that the actual flow will be above, and a 50% chance that the actual flow will be below, this value. To describe the expected range around this 50% value, four other forecasts are provided, two smaller values (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger values (30%, and 10% exceedance probability). For example, there is a 90% chance that the actual flow will be more than the 90% exceedance probability forecast. The others can be interpreted similarly.

The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. Users should take this uncertainty into consideration when making operational decisions by selecting forecasts corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to assume about the amount of water to be expected. If users anticipate receiving a lesser supply of water, or if they wish to increase their chances of having an adequate supply of water for their operations, they may want to base their decisions on the 90% or 70% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. On the other hand, if users are concerned about receiving too much water (for example, threat of flooding), they may want to base their decisions on the 30% or 10% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. Regardless of the forecast value users choose for operations, they should be prepared to deal with either more or less water. (Users should remember that even if the 90% exceedance probability forecast is used, there is still a 10% chance of receiving less than this amount.) By using the exceedance probability information, users can easily determine the chances of receiving more or less water.

# **Interpreting Water Supply Forecasts**

Each month, five forecasts are issued for each forecast point and each forecast period. Unless otherwise specified, all streamflow forecasts are for streamflow volumes that would occur naturally without any upstream influences. Water users need to know what the different forecasts represent if they are to use the information correctly when making operational decisions. The following is an explanation of each of the forecasts.

**90 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast.** There is a 90 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 10 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value.

**70 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast.** There is a 70 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 30 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value.

**50 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast.** There is a 50 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 50 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value. Generally, this forecast is the middle of the range of possible streamflow volumes that can be produced given current conditions.

**30 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast.** There is a 30 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 70 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value.

10 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast. There is a 10 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 90 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value.

\*Note: There is still a 20 percent chance that actual streamflow volumes will fall either below the 90 percent exceedance forecast or above the 10 percent exceedance forecast.

These forecasts represent the uncertainty inherent in making streamflow predictions. This uncertainty may include sources such as: unknown future weather conditions, uncertainties associated with the various prediction methodologies, and the spatial coverage of the data network in a given basin.

**30-Year Average.** The 30-year average streamflow for each forecast period is provided for comparison. The average is based on data from 1971-2000. The % AVG. column compares the 50% chance of exceedance forecast to the 30-year average streamflow; values above 100% denote when the 50% chance of exceedance forecast would be greater than the 30-year average streamflow.

AF - Acre-feet, forecasted volume of water are typically in thousands of acrefeet.

These forecasts are given to users to help make risk-based decisions. Users can select the forecast corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to accept in order to minimize the negative impacts of having more or less water than planned for.

To Decrease the Chance of Having Less Water than Planned for: A user might determine that making decisions based on a 50 percent chance of exceedance forecast is too much risk to take (there is still a 50% chance that the user will receive less than this amount). To reduce the risk of having less water than planned for, users can base their operational decisions on one of the forecasts with a greater chance of being exceeded such as the 90 or 70 percent exceedance forecasts.

To Decrease the Chance of Having More Water than Planned for: A user might determine that making decisions based on a 50 percent chance of exceedance forecast is too much risk to take (there is still a 50% chance that the user will receive more than this amount). To reduce the risk of having more water than planned for, users can base their operational decisions on one of the forecasts with a lesser chance of being exceeded such as the 30 or 10 percent exceedance forecasts.

#### **Using the forecasts - an Example**

**Using the 50 Percent Exceedance Forecast.** Using the example forecasts shown below, there is a 50% chance that actual streamflow volume at the Boise River near Twin Springs will be less than 685 KAF between April 1 and July 31. There is also a 50% chance that actual streamflow volume will be greater than 685 KAF.

**Using the 90 and 70 Percent Exceedance Forecasts.** If an unexpected shortage of water could cause problems (such as irrigated agriculture), users might want to plan on receiving 610 KAF (from the 70 percent exceedance forecast). There is a 30% chance of receiving *less* than 610 KAF.

Alternatively, if users determine the risk of using the 70 percent exceedance forecast is too great, then they might plan on receiving 443 KAF (from the **90** 

percent exceedance forecast). There is 10% chance of receiving less than 443 KAF.

**Using the 30 or 10 Percent Exceedance Forecasts.** If an unexpected excess of water could cause problems (such as operating a flood control reservoir), users might plan on receiving 760 KAF (from the 30 percent exceedance forecast). There is a 30% chance of receiving *more* than 760 KAF.

Alternatively, if users determine the risk of using the 30 percent exceedance forecast is too great, then they might plan on receiving 927 KAF (from the 10 percent exceedance forecast). There is a 10% chance of receiving more than 927 KAF.

Users could also choose a volume in between any of these values to reflect their desired risk level.

# OWYHEE AND MALHEUR BASINS

#### Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2006

	   	<<=====	Drier ===		Future Co	onditions =	====== Wette	r ====>>   	
Forecast Point	Forecast	=======		==	Chance Of E	Exceeding *			
	Period	90%	70%		50% (Most	Probable)	1 30%	10%	30-Yr Avg.
	1	(1000AF)	(1000AF)		(1000AF)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)
				:= =			========		
MALHEUR near Drewsey	FEB-JUL	148	184		210	165	238	282	127
	APR-SEP	87	110		128	168	147	177	76
NF MALHEUR at Beulah	FEB-JUL	108	127		141	157	156	178	90
OWYHEE RESV INFLOW (2)	FEB-JUL	602	792		935	134	1090	1340	700
	APR-SEP	341	473		575	134	687	869	430

<sup>\* 90%, 70%, 30%,</sup> and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual flow will exceed the volumes in the table.

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Official Business



This publication may be found online at: http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/watersupply/

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